

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003
ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /012 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:FZBROWN:LM
APPROVED BY S/PRS: FREDERICK Z BROWN
S/S : RPERITO

-----261820Z 125636 /41

O R 261757Z DEC 76 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (HENRY A. KISSINGER)

SUBJECT: PRESS REVIEW, DECEMBER 26, 19/6

FOR COVEY FROM S/PRS

FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS FROM DECEMBER 26 NEW YORK TIMES AND
WASHINGTON POST ARTICLES OF INTEREST:

NEW YORK TIMES

1. "NEW CIA ESTIMATE FINDS SOVIET SEEKS SUPERIORITY IN ARMS,
DAVID BINDER, DATELINED WASHINGTON.

PPRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER WILL RECEIVE AN INTELLIGENCE
ESTIMATE OF LONG-RANGE SOVIET STRATEGIC INTENTIONS NEXT
MONTH THAT RAISES THE-QUESTION WHETHER THE RUSSIANS ARE
SHIFTING THEIR OBJECTIVES FROM ROUGH PARITY WITH UNITED
STATES MILITARY FORCES TO SUPERIORITY.

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

IN REPORTING THIS, HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS OF THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SAID THEIR ANNUAL SO-CALLED
NATIONAL ESTIMATE OF SOVIET STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES OVER THE
NEXT 10 YEARS, JUST COMPLETED, WAS MORE SOMBER THAN ANY
IN MORE THAN A DECADE. A TOP-LEVEL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE
OFFICER WHO HAS SEEN THE ESTIMATE COMMENTED: 'IT WAS MORE
THAN SOMBER -- IT WAS VERY GRIM. IT FLATLY STATES THE
THE JUDGEMENT THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS SEEKING SUPERIORITY
OVER UNITED STATES FORCES. THE FLAT JUDGEMENT THAT THAT

IS THE AIM OF THE SOVIET UNION IS A MAJORITY VIEW IN THE
ESTIMATE. THE QUESTIONS BIN ON WHERE THEY WILL ACHIEVE
IT."

PREVIOUS NATIONAL ESTIMATES OF SOVIET AIMS - THE SUPREME
PRODUCTS OF THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY SINCE 1950 - HAD
CONCLUDED THAT THE OBJECTIVE WAS ROUGH PARITY WITH THE
UNITED STATES STRATEGIC CAPABILITIES.

BUSH: 'WORRISOME SIGNS'

"THERE ARE SOME WORRISOME SIGNS", GEORGE BUSH, DIRECTOR
OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW IN
CHARACTERIZING THE LATEST ESTIMATE, "AND THE VIEWPOINTS,
INTERPRETATIONS AND COMMENTS ON THESE WILL BE ADEQUATELY
REFLECTED IN THE ESTIMATE."

HE SAID THE SHIFT IN ASSESSMENT DEVELOPED FROM EVIDENCE
GATHERED IN THE PAST YEAR AND FROM NEW INTERPRETATIONS OF
OLDER EVIDENCE THAT HAD RESULTED FROM A COMPETITIVE
ANALYSIS" IN WHICH FOR THE FIRST TIME A TEAM OF OUT-
SIDERS ANALYZED AND CHALLENGED ESTIMATES PREPARED BY THE
REGULAR INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY. AS A RESULT SOME OF THE
GOVERNMENT ANALYSTS CHANGED THEIR ASSESSMENTS.

WHILE MR. BUSH DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE SUBSTANCE OF THE
ESTIMATE, IT CAN BE AUTHORITATIVELY REPORTED THAT THE
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

WORRISOME SIGNS INCLUDED NEWLY DEVELOPED GUIDED MISSILES,
A VAST PROGRAM OF UNDERGROUND SHELTERS AND A CONTINUING
BUILDUP OF AIR DEFENSES.

HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE 1976 ESTIMATE HAD BEEN PRE-
PARED AMID CONTROVERSY IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY,
PARTLY INDUCED BY THE DELIBERATE INTRODUCTION
OF THE TEAM OF OUTSIDERS, WHO WERE SUPPLIED WITH THE
SAME RAW MATERIAL AS THE ESTIMATE TEAM HEADED BY HOWARD
STOERTZ, THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY'S NATIONAL
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER ON THE SOVIET UNION.

UPHOLDING RIGHT OF DISSENT:

MR. BUSH, WHO SAID THE FINAL ESTIMATE CONTAINED "A FULL
EXPOSTULATION OF THE VIEWS OF THE PRINCIPALS, ASSERTED
THAT HE HAD PROMISED TO UPHOLD THE RIGHT OF DISSENT AT
THE OUTSET OF HIS TENURE 11 MONTHS AGO. "I FEEL I HAVE
MADE GOOD ON THAT, HE ADDED....."

2. "ARAFAT SAID TO GET SYRIAN ASSURANCES", HENRY TANNER,
DATELINE BEIRUT:

"IN A SWITCH OF POLICY, SYRIA HAS ASSURED YASIR ARAFAT AND OTHER LEADERS OF AL FATAH, THE MAJOR PALESTINIAN GUERRILLA GROUP, THAT IT HAS NO INTENTION OF OUSTING THEM FROM THE LEADERSHIP OF THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION.

THE SYRIAN PRESIDENT, HAFEZ AL-ASSAD, ALSO TOLD THE MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD PALESTINIANS THAT SYRIA WOULD LET AL FATAH HAVE ADEQUATE MILITARY STRENGTH IN THE REFUGEE CAMPS AND IN CERTAIN AREAS OF SOUTHERN LEBANON, ACCORDING TO ARAB SOURCES.

IN RETURN, MR. ARAFAT ASSURED BOTH SYRIA AND EGYPT THAT
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

THE P.L.O. WOULD COOPERATE WITH THEM IN NEXT YEAR'S PROPOSED NEGOTIATIONS FOR A MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT AND THAT IT WOULD BE FLEXIBLE ON ISSUES OF NEGOTIATING TACTICS.

EGYPT CALLS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

THE EXCHANGE OF PROMISES TOOK PLACE IN A FIVE-HOUR MEETING MR. ASSAD HAD IN DAMASCUS 10 DAYS AGO WITH MR. ARAFAT AND A SMALL GROUP OF OTHER PALESTINIAN LEADERS. MR. ASSAD WAS THEN MAKING PREPARATIONS FOR A VISIT TO CAIRO, WHICH LED TO THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF A "UNITED POLITICAL LEADERSHIP" FOR SYRIA AND EGYPT.

EGYPT, BACKED BY SAUDI ARABIA, HAS CALLED FOR THE START OF NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA BY MARCH. THE ARAB COUNTRIES ARE TRYING TO PUT TOGETHER A COORDINATED STRATEGY BEFORE THEN, AND THEY ARE SEEKING TO CONVINCE OFFICIALS OF THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AND WESTERN PUBLIC OPINION THAT THE ARABS ARE READY FOR PEACE WITH ISRAEL.

THE MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM BEFORE THEM IS TO BRING THE PALESTINIANS INTO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

A DEBATE IS GOING ON INSIDE THE P.L.O. MR. ARAFAT IS KNOWN-TO BE WILLING TO GO FURTHER IN MEETING WITH WISHES OF THE ARAB GOVERNMENTS THAN ARE SOME OF THE YOUNGER MEMBERS OF THE LEADERSHIPS OF AL FATAH AND OTHER GROUPS IN THE P.L.O.

MR. ARAFAT IS HEAD OF BOTH AL FATAH AND THE OVERALL GROUPING OF THE P.L.O.. HE IS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE PLEADED WITH THE SAUDIS, EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS TO GIVE HIM ENOUGH TIME TO PERSUADE HIS COLLEAGUES....."

3. "PAKISTAN WONDERS WHETHER TIES TO U.S. WILL ERODE UNDER CARTER", WILLIAM BORDERS, DATELINE ISLAMABAD:
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 05 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

"THE PAKISTANIS, WHO REGARD THEMSELVES AS AMERICA'S STAUNCHEST ALLY IN SOUTH ASIA ARE VIEWING THE ADVENT OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER WITH SERIOUS APPREHENSION.

"I AM REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT SOME OF THE THINGS HE HAS BEEN SAYING" A HIGH RANKING OFFICIAL HERE DECLARED PRIVATELY. "WE DON'T WANT ANYTHING TO ERODE OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH WASHINGTON."

AS IS OFTEN THE CASE IN PAKISTAN, THE CRUX OF THE MATTER IS INDIA, THIS COUNTRY'S TRADITIONAL ADVERSARY. DESPITE THE FACT THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN ISLAMABAD AND NEW DELHI HAVE IMPROVED DRAMATICALLY IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS, THERE IS STILL WARINESS ON BOTH SIDES, AND THE PAKISTANIS ARE FEARFUL OF ANY NEW AMERICAN POSITION THAT MIGHT STRENGTHEN THAT SIDE OR WEAKEN THIS ONE. HERE ARE PRINCIPAL CONCERNS:

--THE FEAR THAT THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION MAY DECIDE NOT TO PERMIT THE PROPOSED SALE OF 110 A-7 LIGHT BOMBERS TO PAKISTAN, A DEAL APPROVED BY THE PENTAGON LAST MONTH.

--CONCERN THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS SUCCEEDED IN PERSUADING FRANCE TO CANCEL THE PLANNED SALE OF A NUCLEAR PROCESSING PLANT TO PAKISTAN.

--THE APPARENTLY GENUINE CONVICTION AMONG MANY PEOPLE HERE THAT THE REPUBLICANS IN WASHINGTON GENERALLY FAVOR PAKISTAN AND THE DEMOCRATS GENERALLY FAVOR INDIA....."

4. "MEXICO'S NEW PRESIDENT IS TURNING BACK TO TRADITIONAL BUSINESS CIRCLES FOR AID TO REVIVE ECONOMY", ALAN RIDING, DATELINE MEXICO:

"THE NEW CENTRIST GOVERNMENT IS TURNING FOR SUPPORT TO THE HANDFUL OF INDIVIDUALS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT HAVE LONG UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 06 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

PLAYED A QUIET BUT MAJOR ROLE IN DETERMINING MEXICO'S POLITICAL DIRECTION.

DURING THE PRESIDENCY OF LUIS ECHEVERRIA ALVAREZ, WHO LEFT OFFICE DEC. 1, CONTROVERSIAL ATTEMPTS WERE MADE TO EXCLUDE SOME OF THESE CONSERVATIVE INTERESTS FROM THE

UNCLASSIFIED

POLITICAL UNREST, THE NEW PRESIDENT, JOSE LOPEZ PORTILLO, IS TRYING TO REBUILD THE ALLIANCE BETWEEN POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS.

SINCE TAKING OFFICE, MR. LOPEZ PORTILLO HAS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR UNITY AND CONCILIATION AMONG THE INTEREST GROUPS ALIENATED BY MR. ECHEVERRIA, -- NOTABLY THE OLD POLITICAL BOSSES, LEADING BUSINESSMEN, FOREIGN BANKERS AND THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT -- AND IN TWO SENSITIVE AREAS HE HAS ACTIVELY WOODED THE PRIVATE SECTOR.....

AS THE NEW PRESIDENT TURNS TO THE TRADITIONAL INTEREST GROUPS FOR SUPPORT, MANY POLITICAL ANALYSTS BELIEVE THAT THE RECONCILIATION BETWEEN THE POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS THAT HE IS SEEKING IS ESSENTIAL TO AVOID SERIOUS POLITICAL INSTABILITY.

ANOTHER IMPORTANT ELEMENT IS THE IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS WITH THE UNITED STATES, WHICH WAS OPENLY IRRITATED BY THE ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION'S THIRD-WORLD ATTITUDE. THE AMERICAN EMBASSY AND THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ARE EXPRESSING CONFIDENCE IN MR. LOPEZ PORTILLO. THE DEFERENCE WITH WHICH ROSALYNN CARTER AND SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY A. KISSINGER WERE TREATED WHEN THEY ATTENDED THE INAUGURATION HERE WAS ONE APPARENT SIGN OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE FOR IMPROVED RELATIONS..."

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 07 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

;SHINGTON POST

"EAST GERMANS GROW RESTIVE", MICHAEL GETLER, DATELINE
EAST BERLIN:

5. "THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE AN EXPLOSION HERE" AN EAST GERMAN WRITER TOLD A RECENT VISITOR TO THIS CAPITAL OF EAST GERMANY. "BUT THERE IS TENSION NOW. NOBODY KNOWS WHAT WILL HAPPEN. THERE IS A FEELING THAT SOMETHING IS GOING ON THAT HAS NOT YET RUN ITS COURSE."

THE BERLINER WAS TALKING ABOUT AN ARRAY OF PROBLEMS- DISSIDENT INTELLECTUALS, PEOPLE WHO SAY PUBLICLY THEY WANT TO GET OUT, AND OVER THE LONGER HAUL, THE ECONOMY. SUDDENLY THE PROBLEMS HAVE BECOME IMPORTANT AND UNSETTLING TO THE RULING COMMUNIST PARTY POLITBURO.

IN A HARSH CRACKDOWN FOLLOWING THE COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE EXPULSION OF DISSIDENT SINGER WOLF BIERMANN, EAST GERMAN

UNCLASSIFIED

AUTHORITIES HAVE DETAINED DOZENS OF WRITERS AND REMOVED SEVERAL OTHERS FROM OFFICES IN THE OFFICIAL WRITERS UNION.

WITHIN RECENT MONTHS SOME 100,000 OR SO EAST GERMANS HAVE OPENLY APPLIED FOR PERMISSION TO LEAVE FOR WEST

GERMANY.

WORSE YET, PROSPEROUS EAST GERMANY --CLEARLY THE ECONOMIC LEADER OF THE COMMUNIST BLOC-- IS EVENTUALLY GOING TO HAVE TO RAISE CONSUMER PRICES TO MAINTAIN THE HUGE STATE SUBSIDIES THAT NOW KEEP FOOD, HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION COSTS AT ABOUT 1960 PRICE LEVELS. THE COUNTRY IS ALSO HAVING TO PAY HIGHER PRICES FOR THE OIL AND RAW MATERIALS IT IMPORTS FROM THE SOVIET UNION, A FACTOR THAT HAS CAUSED THE EAST GERMANS TO CUT WAY BACK ON SOVIET IMPORTS.
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 08 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

BY VIRTUALLY ALL ACCOUNTS, THIS COUNTRY OF 17 MILLION IS NOT HEADED FOR A REPEAT OF THE DRAMATIC WORKERS' UPRISING OF 1953.

BUT THERE SEEMS TO BE A RESTIVENESS THAT IS PROBABLY GREATER THAN AT ANY TIME SINCE 1961, WHEN THE BERLIN WALL WENT UP, SEALING OFF THIS COUNTRY FROM THE WEST, AND IN 1968, WHEN NEIGHBORING CZECHOSLOVAKIA WAS INVADED BY WARSAW PACT FORCES.

WHERE IT WILL LEAD IS A QUESTION OF THE HIGHEST STAKES FOR GERMANS IN BOTH PARTS OF THIS DIVIDED COUNTRY AND FOR EAST-WEST RELATIONS IN GENERAL. ..."

6. "KISSINGER TELLS", NO BYLINE

"IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT HENRY KISSINGER WILL RECEIVE THE LARGEST ADVANCE FOR AN UNWRITTEN BOOK IN THE HISTORY OF PUBLISHING. \$2 MILLION IS CONSIDERED A "CONSERVATIVE BID" AND THE ESTIMATES GO AS HIGH AS \$5 MILLION EVEN THOUGH NO PROSPECTIVE BUYER HAS SEEN SO MUCH AS AN OUTLINE, LET ALONE A MANUSCRIPT.

PUBLISHERS ARE QUIET ABOUT THESE MATTERS, BUT RICHARD NIXON'S MEMOIRS PROBABLY HOLD THE UNWRITTEN BOOK RECORD NOW. THEY WERE BOUGHT LAST YEAR BY WARNER BOOKS IN AN AGREEMENT AMOUNTING TO \$2.3 MILLION. SEVERAL SOURCES REPORT THAT WARNER HAS ALREADY BID THAT AMOUNT ON KISSINGER'S BOOK.

THE FIGURES ARE SO HIGH BECAUSE THE PUBLISHERS PROJECT HARDCOVER SALES WELL OVER 100,000 COPIES, DOMESTIC PAPER-

BACK, MOVIE AND OTHER SUBSIDIARY RIGHTS ARE EXPECTED TO BRING IN AROUND \$1.5 MILLION, AND MOST IMPORTANTLY,
UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 09 STATE 310876 TOSEC 340003

THERE IS A VAST POTENTIAL MARKET IN FOREIGN RIGHTS. A

FIGURE OF \$1 MILLION IS BEING USED AS A GUIDELINE BY AT LEAST TWO PUBLISHERS, BUT GERMANY ALONE MIGHT ACCOUNT FOR HALF THAT AMOUNT.

(EARLY THIS MONTH, DR. SIEGFRIED UNSELD OF THE GERMAN PUBLISHING HOUSE SUHRKAMP VERLAG WAS IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR A LATIN AMERICAN WRITERS' CONFERENCE WITH THE OAS, TO LECTURE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND ON HERMANN HESSE, AND TO HAVE AN EXTENDED BREAKFAST WITH HIS OLD FRIEND KISSINGER. UNSELD WOULD NOT COMMENT ON THEIR CONVERSATION EXCEPT TO SAY "I THINK KISSINGER IS AN EXTRAORDINARY MAN AND HIS WILL BE AN EXTRAORDINARY BOOK.")

OF COURSE, A LOT OF AGENTS WOULD LIKE TO BE IN ON THIS DEAL. ACCORDING TO FORMER UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE CARLYLE E. MAW, KISSINGER'S LAWYER, WHO HAS BEEN RECEIVING THE BIDS SINCE LAST SUMMER, NO LITERARY AGENT IS INVOLVED AT PRESENT. THERE WAS A PERSISTENT RUMOR LATE LAST WEEK, HOWEVER, THAT MARVIN JOSEPHSON IS BEING CONSULTED. (HIS COMPANY OWNS INTERNATIONAL CREATIVE MANAGEMENT.) JOSEPHSON WOULD NOT COMMENT ON THE RUMORS.
ROBINSON

UNCLASSIFIED

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 16 SEP 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE310876
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: S/PRS:FZBROWN:LM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D760472-0583
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761293/baaaercd.tel
Line Count: 349
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 7
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 24 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <30 DEC 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS REVIEW, DECEMBER 26, 19/6
TAGS: OVIP, NEW YORK TIMES, WASHINGTON POST, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)
To: SECRETARY
INFO MEXICO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006